

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4858

S E C R E T PARIS 26509

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR VN US

SUBJECT: U.S. RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM

1. VIETNAMESE FIRST SECRETARY DO THANH CALLED AT EMBASSY AT 1200 SEPTEMBER 13 AT HIS REQUEST TO DELIVER AN ORAL MESSAGE FROM HANOI; OUR INFORMAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION, WHICH IS NEARLY VERBATIM, FOLLOWS:

"THE U.S. AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES AT THE UN MADE A DECLARATION WHICH DISTORTS THE NATURE OF THE CONTACTS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN PARIS. THIS IS WHY THE VIETNAMESE PARTY IS OBLIGED TO PUBLISH THE MESSAGES EXCHANGED BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES SO THAT PUBLIC OPINION CAN BE AWARE OF THE TRUTH.

"WE REQUEST THAT THE AMERICAN PARTY REPLY SOON TO OUR NOTE OF AUGUST 27 (N.B. PREVIOUSLY CONSIDERED TO BE DATED AUGUST 28, THE DATE OF THE DELIVERY IN PARIS)."

2. DO THANH SAID HE GATHERED THAT HANOI WOULD PUBLISH THE MESSAGES, OURS AS WELL AS THEIRS, AS SOON AS THEY RECEIVED CONFIRMATION THAT DO THANH HAD INFORMED US. HE THEREFORE THOUGHT THE RELEASE WOULD BE MADE THE EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 13 HANOI TIME.

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3. DO THANH SAID HE DID NOT HAVE ANY PRECISE INFORMATION ON WHEN AND WHERE AMBASSADOR SCRANTON MADE THE REMARKS NOR PRECISELY WHAT THEY WERE. FROM THE CABLE FROM HANOI THE SRV BELIEVES AMBASSADOR SCRANTON SAID THAT THE U.S. WAS PUTTING THE MIA PROBLEM BEFORE THE UNITED NATIONS BECAUSE THERE HAD BEEN NO PROGRESS IN THE CONTACTS BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES IN PARIS.

RUSH

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NNN

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